

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4 to 8 and 12 to 21 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Please amend the claims and add new Claims 22 to 25 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A probe carrier ~~comprising a carrier and probes immobilized thereon as a plurality of spots, said probes being~~ for simultaneous quantification of two or more genes in a solution, the probe carrier having a surface on which probes capable of specifically binding to ~~a plurality of target substances, wherein the probe carrier has a reaction region for reacting said probes with the target substances, said reaction region comprising two or more independent areas separated from each other, wherein in each area probes of the same kind are immobilized as one or more spots and probes of different kinds are not immobilized, wherein in at least one area probes of the same kind are immobilized as two or more spots, and wherein the two or more areas immobilize different amounts of probes depending on the target substances to be reacted with the probes immobilized in the areas~~ respective ones of the genes are immobilized at known locations, wherein two or more areas containing respective ones of the probes exist as separated spots on the probe carrier, and wherein the number of spots for the genes differs depending on the genes.

2 to 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The probe carrier according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that the amount of immobilized probes varies between different areas~~
wherein the amount of probe molecules per spot is the same for the same probe and
different between probes having different sequences.

10. (Currently Amended) The probe carrier according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that application of probes to be immobilized is performed~~ wherein the
spots are formed by an ink jet method.

11. (Currently Amended) The probe carrier according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the number of spots ~~in each of the areas differs~~ for respective
target substances differs 100 to 1000 times between a maximum number of spots and a
minimum number of spots.

12 to 21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) The probe carrier according to claim 1, wherein the number of
spots for a target substance corresponding to a gene expected to exist at a higher ratio is
larger than the number of spots for a target substance corresponding to a gene expected to
exist at a lower ratio, based on expected amounts of the target substances in the solution.

23. (New) The probe carrier according to claim 1, wherein the amount of

probes immobilized per spot is known.

24. (New) The probe carrier according to claim 22, wherein the number of probe molecules per spot is practically equal among all kinds of probes.

25. (New) The probe carrier according to claim 23, wherein the number of spots in each of the areas is proportional to an average amount of expression, in a human, of a target gene having a sequence complementary to a respective one of the probes.